

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented): A polarizer consisting essentially of a stretched hydrophilic polymer film, wherein the polarizer has a shrinkage force of at most 4.0 N/cm in an absorption axis direction, the shrinkage force being measured by (i) heating the polarizer at 80°C for 30 minutes, and (ii) subsequently measuring the shrinkage force of the polarizer.

2. (Original): The polarizer according to claim 1, wherein the shrinkage force in the absorption axis direction after being heated at 80°C for 30 minutes ranges from 1.0 N/cm to 3.7 N/cm.

3. (Original): The polarizer according to claim 1, wherein the polarizer thickness is at most 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. (Original): The polarizer according to claim 3, wherein the polarizer thickness ranges from 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 18  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (Previously presented): The polarizer according to claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer film before being stretched is a polyvinyl alcohol-based film.

6. (Original): The polarizer according to claim 5, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol-based film thickness is at most 60  $\mu\text{m}$ .

7. (Previously presented): The polarizer according to claim 5, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol has an average polymerization degree ranging from 500 to 10000, and an average saponification degree of at least 75 mol%.